

# EXHIBIT U

## Stueve · Siegel · Hanson

LLP

### *Overview*

Stueve Siegel Hanson LLP was founded in 2001 by lawyers who formerly practiced at large national law firms. The Firm now boasts a dozen lawyers including several former federal and state law clerks. The Firm is rated AV, and its lawyers have accumulated several local, regional, and national awards for their successes and dedication to the practice.

Stueve Siegel Hanson LLP represents plaintiffs and defendants in complex business, class action, wage and hour, environmental, and product liability litigation and trials. Since opening our doors in 2001, we have obtained substantial results in a wide range of class and collective actions while serving as lead or co-lead counsel including:

- A \$27.5 million settlement in a wage and hour lawsuit brought on behalf of loan originators;
- Obtaining in excess of \$50 million in settlements of wage and hour claims on behalf of employees in the financial services, pharmaceutical, cosmetology and call center industries;
- Settlement of a nationwide class action involving GM automobiles equipped with “Dex-Cool” coolant;
- Obtaining \$75-125 million in relief for purchasers of Hyundai vehicles for Hyundai’s overstatement of horsepower in vehicles;
- Obtaining \$33 million in relief for owners of Mitsubishi and Chrysler owners related to defective wheel rims;
- Obtaining \$7.2 million in relief for Sprint customers effected by Sprint’s practice of improperly charging “casual caller” rates;
- Obtaining \$35-50 million in relief for Volkswagen owners effected by VW’s use of a faulty plastic part in the window mechanism of certain vehicles;
- Obtaining a \$7.7 million nationwide settlement after the Court certified a nationwide class of Cable & Wireless customers who had been overcharged PICC fees.

In addition to these cases, SSH currently acts as lead or co-lead counsel and represents plaintiffs in class and collective actions pending against The Dow Chemical Company, Premcor Refining Company, Wells Fargo Bank, Dell, Inc, RJ Reynolds, Sprint/Nextel, Cable & Wireless, Tyson Foods, Merck, Monsanto, AT&T Wireless, Volkswagen, General Motors, DaimlerChrysler and TeleTech Holdings, Inc. Our firm has defended class actions as well, including defending the Allstate Insurance Company in a class action brought by policyholders claiming Allstate improperly discounted medical reimbursements.

SSH has also obtained substantial results in non-class cases, including numerous successes at trial. Some of our recent courtroom victories include:

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- A \$20 million jury verdict on behalf of independent contractor agents against State Farm in a breach of contract and tortious interference case;
- A \$4.2 million jury verdict against one of the country's largest securities brokers, A.G. Edwards & Sons, in a breach of contract and fraud case;
- A \$3.5 million jury verdict and attorneys' fee award against the world's largest manufacturer of recreational boats in a fraud and breach of contract case;
- A \$1.6 million jury verdict against a major paint and coating supplier in a negligent misrepresentation case;
- A defense verdict for a client defending a multi-million dollar tort claim;
- A defense verdict in a high-profile white collar criminal price fixing case following an eight week trial.

We are proud of our successes and our focus on results. Our mission is the same whether our clients are a class of employees and consumers or Fortune 100 companies.

***Our Partners***

Our lawyers have a breadth of experience that is national in scope. We have appeared before state and federal courts nationwide, and have successfully litigated cases across the country. Here are our partners:

**Patrick J. Stueve** started his career clerking for the late United States District Court Judge John W. Oliver in the Western District of Missouri, Kansas City. He then joined the trial department of Stinson, Mag & Fizzell where he became partner in 1994. He was the youngest of six partners to leave Stinson, Mag in 1996 to found Berkowitz, Feldmiller, Stanton, Brandt, Williams & Stueve. Patrick had various management responsibilities at Stinson and then Berkowitz before leaving to found Stueve Siegel. Pat received his B.A. in Economics, with distinction, from Benedictine College in 1984, and his J.D. from the University of Kansas (Order of the Coif) in 1987 where he served as an Editor of both the Kansas Law Review and the Criminal Justice Review.

Patrick has extensive complex business litigation and class action experience. He has both defended and prosecuted claims in federal and state courts (as well as AAA arbitrations) in the areas of Antitrust, Trademark and Patent Infringement, Unfair Competition, Business Torts, Product Liability, Non-Compete, Securities Fraud, Telecommunications, Franchise, and Health Care.

Most recently Patrick successfully prosecuted violations of a franchise agreement in a New York Arbitration against a Fortune 500 company that resulted in an eight figure settlement for a Kansas City franchisee. Patrick also recently represented a London based company in Federal Court in California prosecuting antitrust claims and defending trademark and cyber squatting claims that also resulted in an eight figure settlement. This past year Patrick has successfully prosecuted several license violation cases for a small Kansas City software developer resulting in settlements exceeding \$1 million dollars.

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Patrick has successfully tried to verdict cases in federal and state courts across the country and in several AAA and NASD arbitrations. He recently obtained a defense verdict in a \$7 million dollar business tort claim for his client in the Western District of Missouri (Aftermarket vs. Gulf). This past year Patrick was selected by his peers as a “Super Lawyer” for Missouri and Kansas and the “Best of the Bar” in Kansas City. He is a member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum, limited to trial lawyers who have won multi-million dollar cases.

Patrick also has extensive class action experience. Patrick has been lead or co-lead counsel in three large nationwide consumer class actions that have settled over the past two years. In Lewin v. Volkswagen, Patrick successfully obtained relief totaling \$50 million dollars for one million Volkswagen customers in a deceptive trade practices class action that required Volkswagen to provide full reimbursement for past product defect repairs and to replace all window regulators on these vehicles at no cost to the customer. In Cromwell v. Sprint, Patrick obtained relief totaling \$7.2 million for over 100,000 Sprint customers who were wrongfully charged casual caller fees in violation of the Federal Communications Act. In Powers v. Cable & Wireless, Patrick obtained and order certifying a nationwide class of consumers who were overcharged PICC fees and then reached a nationwide settlement of \$7.7 million for the approximately 40,000 customers who had been wrongfully charged PICC fees.

Prior to founding Stueve Siegel Hanson LLP, Patrick represented Ford Motor Company and other Fortune 100 companies in major litigation across the country, including the defense of several class action claims involving a variety of industries.

Patrick is currently serving as President of the Lawyers Association of Kansas City. Patrick is a three term past president of the board of Habitat for Humanity Kansas City and the recent recipient of the first John and Mary Pritchard Founders Award from Habitat. He has served on the Visitation School Board, is the past PTO president for Visitation School, and has coached youth baseball, football, basketball, and track. Patrick has also served as an Adjunct Instructor of Trial Advocacy at the University of Kansas Law School and published articles on a wide variety of legal issues. He also is a member of the ABA’s Antitrust section and its Private Enforcement Committee.

**Norman E. Siegel** started his career as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Missouri. In 1995, he joined the litigation department of Blackwell Sanders. In 1998, Norm joined Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal and was promoted to partner in 2000. Norm also served on the hiring committee of Sonnenschein. Norm received a degree in political science from Tufts University, and his J.D. from Washington University in St. Louis.

In August 2005, Norm (along with partner George Hanson) won a \$20 million jury verdict for five State Farm agents who had accused State Farm of violating their agents' agreements (Kelly v. State Farm). The verdict came after a three-week trial in Independence Missouri. The agents argued that they were improperly terminated after publicly criticizing management's policies as unfair to policyholders. The agents, who collectively had over 115 years service with State Farm, spoke out following a series of substantial verdicts and settlements against State Farm that revealed improper claims handling, fraudulent use of medical utilization reviews, specification of

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non-OEM replacement parts, and other practices considered harmful to policyholders. Norm delivered the closing argument at trial, and the jury returned a verdict in the amount sought by the agents.

Norm also recently served as co-lead counsel in In re: Hyundai Horsepower Litigation, which netted class relief for 800,000 Hyundai owners totaling \$125 million. The case was aggressively litigated over nearly two years and was fought on numerous fronts. The nationwide litigation began in September 2002 when Hyundai announced it had overstated horsepower ratings in more than 1 million vehicles sold in the United States over a 10 year period. Norm took the lead in discovery, processing more than 80,000 pages of Hyundai documents and taking the depositions of top Hyundai management, including the CEO of Hyundai Motor America, and a corporate representative of HMA's parent company in Seoul, South Korea. Norm was also instrumental in the settlement that followed, which brought high praise from Hyundai owners across the country. Norm is still serving as lead counsel in the related horsepower litigation against Hyundai's sister company Kia Motors America.

Norm has also recently litigated an eight figure case to settlement on behalf of a franchisee against a nationwide franchisor (case name confidential), and won a jury verdict in excess of \$1.5 million for a local business (Weld v. Graggs Paint).

Norm has also obtained outstanding results in criminal cases. In October of 2001, Norm's client was acquitted of federal price fixing charges before a federal jury in Houston, Texas (U.S. v. Supreme Insulation). In late February of 2002, Norm's client, who had pleaded guilty to criminally violating the federal RICO statute, was granted probation despite the government's request for a lengthy prison term (U.S. v. McCarthy).

Norm has substantial litigation and class action experience. He currently holds leadership positions in class cases against Premcor Refining, Kia Motors and General Motors. He has extensive intellectual property and domain name dispute litigation experience. Norm was responsible for the intellectual property expert issues in the recently settled Formula 1 litigation. And Norm recently defended Aquila Inc., a Fortune 100 Company, in defense of numerous securities class actions alleging that Aquila's board failed to take appropriate steps in response to a tender offer from its parent Utilicorp United. In early January 2002, a Delaware Chancery Judge denied plaintiffs' claims for immediate injunctive relief, paving the way for the successful tender offer and merger of the two companies.

As an Assistant Attorney General, Norm also served as a special prosecutor for the State, investigating and prosecuting cases involving gambling and election fraud. He also was instrumental in the investigation and civil prosecution of those accused of bilking the State's Second Injury Fund, which resulted in settlements totaling nearly \$1 million. Since entering private practice, Norm has served as special counsel for the State, having been named a Special Assistant Attorney General in 1997. In December 2003, Attorney General Jay Nixon appointed Norm to the Community Action Committee charged with overseeing A Rising Tide, the \$400 million public health foundation created with the public health asset sale of Health Midwest. Norm now serves as Chairman of the CAC.

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**George A. Hanson** started his career with Blackwell Sanders in the Labor and Employment Department. He was elected partner in 1999. George served as Chair of Blackwell's Hiring Committee in 2001. George received his B.A. from Oberlin College, with high honors, in 1988, and his J.D. from the University of Minnesota, *cum laude*, in 1992. For the past four consecutive years, George has been named "Best of the Bar" by the *Kansas City Business Journal*. In 2006, George was selected by his peers as a "Super Lawyer" for Missouri and Kansas. George is also rated AV - the highest designation a lawyer can achieve from publisher Martindale-Hubbell.

George has had extensive litigation and trial experience in a broad array of business and employment cases brought in both federal and state courts across the country. In August 2005, George (along with partner Norman Siegel) won a \$20 million jury verdict for five State Farm agents who had accused State Farm of violating their agents' agreements ([Kelly v. State Farm](#)). The verdict came after a three-week trial in Independence Missouri. In 2003, George was lead trial counsel and won a \$3.5 million judgment and attorney fee award on behalf of Horizon Holdings against Genmar, the world's largest manufacturer of recreational boats, in a fraud and breach of contract case in federal court in Kansas. ([Horizon Holdings v. Genmar](#)) George has also won verdicts in a breach of contract and fraud cases tried before juries in Johnson County, Kansas and Jackson County, Missouri. In addition to trial practice, George has developed an active appellate practice and has successfully argued numerous cases before federal and state appellate panels, including federal appellate courts in the Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Circuits.

In addition to trial work, George's practice currently focuses on the representation of employees in large wage and hour class and collective actions, including workers in the financial services, meat processing, pharmaceutical and call center industries. In the past five years, George has been lead or co-lead counsel on more than 40 wage and hour actions filed in state and federal courts in Kansas, Missouri, California, Illinois, New York, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, and Louisiana. To date, these wage and hour cases have obtained relief in excess of \$50 million on behalf of firm clients. George is also a frequent speaker regarding wage and hour matters nationwide.

**Todd M. McGuire** was born and raised in Elgin, Illinois. In 1996, Todd received his B.A. in Rhetoric and Communications Studies from Drake University, *summa cum laude*, where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Mortar Board and Omicron Delta Kappa. Todd was also an active member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity. In 1999, Todd obtained his J.D., with highest honors, from Drake. Todd served as Editor in Chief of the *Drake Law Review* and was a member of the Order of the Coif.

After graduating from law school, Todd began his legal career in the Kansas City office of Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal, one of the largest law firms in the country, in the litigation department, specializing in antitrust, white collar criminal defense and commercial litigation. In October 2001, Todd joined Stueve Siegel Hanson LLP. In January 2005, Todd was elected to the Firm's partnership.

During the past 6 years, Todd has successfully represented a variety of clients in complex civil and criminal matters at both the trial court and appellate levels. He has both defended and prosecuted claims in the areas of Antitrust, RICO, Contract Disputes, Environmental

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Contamination, Business Torts, White Collar Crime, Employment Discrimination, Wage and Hour Violations, Insurance Coverage and Bad Faith, Copyright Infringement and Class Actions. Todd is admitted to practice in federal and state courts in Missouri and Kansas as well as before the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. Todd has represented clients in Courts across the country including New York, Texas, California, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Kansas, Missouri and Michigan.

Todd is a member of the American Bar Association, Lawyers' Association of Kansas City and Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association. Todd has been recognized as a philanthropic leader at Drake University through membership in the President's Circle. Todd is also a member of the Steering Committee for the Donald V. Adams Leadership Institute at Drake.

**Todd E. Hilton** received his B.A. in English and Philosophy, cum laude, from the University of Miami in 1996, where he was President of the International Philosophy Honor Society and Vice President of the International English Honor Society. He received his J.D., with honors, from George Washington University in 1999. Todd was a member of The George Washington Journal of International Law and Economics. Todd joined Lathrop & Gage out of law school where he specialized in products liability, personal injury, wrongful death, and consumer protection litigation. Todd was recently honored by the Missouri Lawyers Weekly as having obtained the fifth highest verdict in Missouri in 2001.